THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Since the size of the Eighth Plan is yet to be finalised, details have not been firmed up.

Indian Airlines performance slipping again

1623. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention have been drawn to news item "IA performance slipping again" which appeared in 'Times of India' dated November 11, 1991;

(b) what steps have been taken to ensure better punctuality of flights;

(c) what is Government's reaction to delay experienced by passengers on arrival due to lack of quick transport, slow baggage delivery, etc.;

(d) whether it is a fact that VIP movement is also responsible for recent delays in Indian Airlines flights; and

(e) reasons for not properly informed passengers of delay in flights?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The following steps are taken by Indian Airlines to ensure punctuality of flights:—

(i) Close monitoring of operations on daily basis with timely action to improve the on-time performance; and

(ii) Rationalisation of block time and ground time for each flight.

(c) wherever necessary, transport is made available near the aircraft on arrival. Quick delivery of baggage is ensured by bringing it to the terminal building as far as possible.

(d) Occasionally due to movemen of VVIP aircraft, Indian Airline flights get delayed.

(e) Every possible effort is made b Indian Airlines to provide 'flight de lay' information to passengers wit reasons for delay.

Constitution of AIR Transport Council

1624. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Air Corporations Act, 1952 provides for the constitution of an Air Transpor Council;

(b) if so, whether any such council has been constituted by the Government;

(c) what are the details thereof and the functions assigned to the Council;

(d) whether the Air Transpor Council is acting in an open permissive quasi-judicial manner like the Public Utilities Commissions abroad;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) what action Government propose to take to make the working of Air Transport Council more meaningful?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Under Section 30 of the Air Corporation Act, 1953, the Central Government may, from time to time, by notification in the *Official Gazette*, constitute an Air Transport Council.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) to (f) Do not arise.